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AUG 03 2004

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IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~A method, an apparatus, and a computer program product are disclosed for allocating hosting service resources to clients in at least one shared server. In the method, utilization patterns of the clients are discovered. The resources are then allocated to the clients dependent on the utilization patterns. Preferably, the method includes the step of providing bounds specifying minimum and maximum hosting service resources for each of the clients, with the allocating step also being dependent upon the bounds.~~

A method, apparatus, computer program product, and decision support system and for allocating hosting-service resources to clients in at least one shared server. The method comprises discovering utilization patterns of the clients; monitoring the clients to discover the utilization patterns; providing bounds specifying minimum and maximum hosting-service resources for each of the clients; modeling dimensions for client user measures and the utilization patterns; and allocating the resources to the clients dependent on the utilization patterns. The step of allocating is also dependent upon the bounds. The method further includes packing the clients using stochastic vectors, wherein the packing step utilizes at least one of a Roof Avoidance process, a Minimized Variance process, a Maximized Minima process, and a Largest Combination process, and wherein the hosting-service resources relate to at least one hosting comprising one of collaborative hosting services, commerce hosting services, and e-business hosting services.

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